



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Mu-Jing Li et al.

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EFFICIENTLY LOCATING AND AUTOMATICALLY CORRECTING CERTAIN VIOLATIONS IN A COMPLEX EXISTING CIRCUIT LAYOUT

Application No.: 10/686,471 Filed: October 15, 2003

Examiner: Thuan V. Do Group Art Unit: 2825

Atty. Docket No.: 004-8063

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April 26, 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, the undersigned brings the patents, publications, applications or other information identified in the attached:

- Form(s) PTO-1449  
 Other: List of Pending U.S. Patent Applications

to the Examiner's attention in the above-identified application. Citation of such information shall not be construed as:

1. an admission that the information necessarily is, or corresponds to, prior art with respect to the instant invention;
2. a representation that a search has been made, other than as described below; or
3. an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

Pursuant to 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003), Information Disclosure Statements may be filed without copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003.

For each item of information listed that is not in the English language, the undersigned has provided a concise explanation of the relevance through (i) an English language abstract, (ii) an English language equivalent application, or (iii) if cited in a search report or other action

by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

FEE AUTHORIZATION

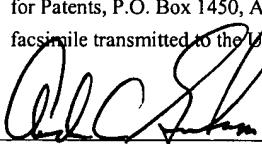
- This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) or within three months of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application. Therefore, no fee is required.
- The undersigned believes that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits or before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114. Therefore, no fee is believed required.

If however, this Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the period specified in § 1.97(b), the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-0631.

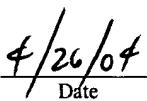
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being

- deposited with the US Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.  
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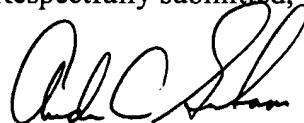
Andrew C. Graham



4/26/04

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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EXPRESS MAIL LABEL: \_\_\_\_\_

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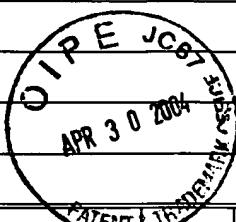
**LIST OF PENDING U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS**

The following pending U.S. patent applications are listed for consideration by the Examiner.

- 1) U.S. Patent Application No. 10/461,041, filed June 13, 2003, entitled "Method, Apparatus, and Computer Program Product for Generation of a Via Array Within a Fill Area of a Design Layout," naming inventor Mu-Jing Li.

*Applicant(s) are providing a separate list of pending applications, pursuant to MPEP § 609(D), to avoid publication of the application numbers on any patent that issues from the above-identified application. Applicant(s) request that the Examiner indicate consideration of the pending applications listed above in accordance with MPEP 609(C)(2) and return a copy of this page with the next communication.*

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office		Attorney Docket No.: 004-8063
		Application No.: 10/686,471
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant(s): Mu-Jing Li et al.
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## U.S. Patent Documents

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name
AA	5,620,916	04-15-1997	Eden et al.
AB	5,689,435	11-18-1997	Umney et al.
AC	5,706,295	01-06-1998	Suzuki
AD	5,926,723	07-20-1999	Wang
AE	5,970,238	10-19-1999	Shibata et al.
AF	6,011,911	01-04-2000	Ho et al.
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AI	6,078,737	06-20-2000	Suzuki
AJ	6,189,136	02-13-2001	Bothra
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AQ	6,446,873	09-10-2002	Geryk, N.

## Foreign Patent Documents

					Translation	
		Document	Date	Country	Yes	No
	AR					

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AS	
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Examiner	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.

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#### U.S. Patent Documents

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name
	AV	6,457,163	09-24-2002	Yang
	AW	6,461,877	10-08-2002	Holloway et al.
	AX	6,484,302	11-19-2002	Freymuth
	AY	6,487,706	11-26-2002	Barkley et al.
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	BF	US 2002/0174413	11-21-2002	Tanaka
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	BH	US 2003/0088843	05-08-2003	Mehrotra et al.
	BI	US 2003/0182644	09-25-2003	Li et al.
	BJ	US 2003/0196180	10-16-2003	Li et al
	BK	US 2003/0229860	12-11-2003	Li
	BL	US 2003/0229862	12-11-2003	Li et al.

#### Foreign Patent Documents

					Translation	
		Document	Date	Country	Yes	No
	BM					

#### OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name		
	BQ	US 2004/0019862	01-29-2004	Li et al.		
	BR	US 2004/0019866	01-29-2004	Li		
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	BT	US 2004/0019868	01-29-2004	Li		
	BU	US 2004/0025125	02-05-2004	Li		
	BV	US 2004/0063228	04-01-2004	Li et al.		
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	BX	US 2004/0064796	04-01-2004	Li		
	BY	US 2004/0064797	04-01-2004	Li		
<b>Foreign Patent Documents</b>			Translation			
		Document	Date	Country	Yes	No
<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>						
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<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>		
*Examiner Initial	Cite No.	(Including name of author in capital letters, title of article, title of item, date, pertinent pages, volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)
	AA	YU CHEN ET AL., "Hierarchical Dummy Fill for Process Uniformity," Proc. Asia and South Pacific Design Automation Conf, January 2001, pp. 139-144.
	AB	ANDREW B. KAHNG ET AL., "Filling Algorithms and Analyses for Layout Density Control," IEEE Trans. Computer Aided Design 18(4) (1999) pp. 445-462.
	AC	BARNES, "SKILL: A CAD System Extension Language," 1990 27 <sup>th</sup> ACM/EEE Design Automation Conference, pp. 266-271.
	AD	KARAM ET AL., "High Level CAD Melds Microsystems with Foundries," 1996 European Design and Test Conference, pp. 442-447.
	AE	LUO ET AL., "An Edge-Endpoint-Based Configurable Hardware Architecture for VLSI CAD Layout Design Rule Checking," 1999 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual IEEE Symposium on Field-Programmable Custom Computing Machines, pp. 158-167.
	AF	DIVA VERIFICATION, <a href="http://www.cadence.com/datasheets/diva.html">http://www.cadence.com/datasheets/diva.html</a> 2002 Cadence Design Systems, Inc., downloaded 5-17-2002, 3 pages.
	AG	
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